

**Abstract 698**

**TITLE:** Building HIV Prevention Skill-Building Infrastructure in Multi-Cultural Communities:  
Injuries, Drug Use, and Relationships

**AUTHORS:** Harvey R. Lee, M. S.

**ISSUES:** "If we talk about sex, the kids will become sexually active." This prevailing attitude continues to plague our communities. Nationally and regionally, our culturally diverse communities are resisting HIV Prevention Education. Educators, youth workers, and religious leaders are finding it difficult to reach multicultural communities. The Pacific region continues to face the same struggles implementing HIV Prevention Education. Furthermore, HIV Prevention Education is not changing students' attitudes and/or behaviors.

**SETTING:** Pacific Resources for Education and Learning Comprehensive Center XV developed a HIV skill based education framework to address transmission and infection throughout the Pacific region. We believe there is national significance for multi-cultural communities such as in Hawaii, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, California, and other states.

**PROJECT:** Pacific Region Teacher Training Project is a culturally diverse HIV skills-based prevention education project addressing CDC's training expectations, multi-cultural components, and religious concerns. The goal is to equip participants with knowledge and skills leading to behavioral changes. The objectives are to have participants 1) understand the two ways of HIV transmission; 2) understand the points of infection in the human body; 3) learn to identify high risk situations for HIV infections. The outcome is for participants to experience a classroom demonstration on 1) understanding blood and body fluids as methods of HIV transmission; 2) recognize and prevent HIV infections; 3) involving students in identifying high-risk situations such as injury prevention, drug prevention, and fostering healthy relationships.

**RESULT:** This is year one of the Pacific Region Teacher Training Project. We have trained 40 school cadres in Guam; held 15 classroom demonstrations in CNMI, and conducted four parent groups. The quantitative result of the training is 4.8+ out of 5.0 scale. The qualitative data is as positive: "I liked Harvey's frank, but sensitive presentation of this difficult material"; "it is timely"; "good refresher on materials and important safety habits"; "good job-very knowledgeable and comfortable with subject and got us involved and kept us interested"; "straight forward presentation of information and strategies for the classroom"; "able to adapt information to all grade levels"; "well done with the little bit of time".

**LESSONS LEARNED:** HIV skill-building prevention education is not just focusing on preventing sexual contact. The Pacific Region Teachers Training Project teaches universal precautions in handling high-risk situations injuries; no use and harm reduction techniques to avoid the high-risk situation in drug addiction; and abstinence/monogamy and protection to reduce infection rates from human to human contact.

**IN SUMMARY:** Participants need to embrace all of the different research findings and transfer technology to change behaviors and attitudes of our nations' children.

**PRESENTER CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Name:** Harvey Lee

**Address:** 1099 Alakea Street, 25'h Floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Telephone:** (808) 4411.300

**Fax:** (808) 4411.385

**E-mail:** leeh@prel.org